



SECRETARY OF STATE
KEVIN SHELLEY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



Chancellor's Office
California Community Colleges

State of California

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**CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE KEVIN SHELLEY AND
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR MARK DRUMMOND URGE
EXPANSION OF THE CCC AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION PROJECT**

SACRAMENTO - California Secretary of State Kevin Shelley and California Community Colleges Chancellor Mark Drummond urged the expansion of the Automatic Voter Registration Project that provides California students with an easy and convenient way to register to vote online during registration for classes.

Under this innovative project, students at participating community colleges are asked if they want to register to vote at the time they register for classes online, by telephone or in person. Students who answer in the affirmative are sent a voter registration form, personalized with information from the college application, for completion and signature.

Piloted at City College of San Francisco, the Automatic Voter Registration Project has generated nearly 17,000 voter registration requests statewide since its inception in fall term 2003. Prototypes have been developed to assist 20 community colleges throughout California to integrate the voter registration project into their existing course registration systems.

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Drummond called the project another example of community colleges using technology and innovation to serve the interests of students and the interests of California. “Community college education helps our students become better citizens,” Drummond said. “Every vote counts so we will now be able to help our students become voting citizens as well, because our state and nation will benefit from a responsible, informed electorate.”

Shelley urged all community colleges to consider joining the project. “This is a simple and effective way to help students become part of the political process and encourage them to participate in our democracy,” he said. “Reaching out to community college students will help us engage more young people and involve a broad spectrum of Californians in building the future of this state.”

Information about the Automatic Voter Registration Project was shared in a joint letter to community college trustees, district chancellors, college presidents, student services administrators, student body presidents, and faculty leaders. The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the world with 109 colleges and 72 districts providing educational, vocational and transfer programs to over 2.8 million students each year.

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